

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DAMASC 05941 071116Z

65

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 OMB-01

SAM-01 ACDA-10 SSM-05 /094 W

----- 006890

R 071046Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9436

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION USUN

USIA WASHDC

DIA WASHDC

UNCLAS DAMASCUS 5941

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, SY, LE

SUBJECT: SEPT. 5 SYRIAN MEDIA REPORT ARAB FONMINS MEETING AND
ESCALATION OF FIGHTING IN LEBANON

1. MEDIA FOCUSED ON RESULTS OF ARAB FONMINS MEETING UNDER
AL AUSPICES AND ON ESCALATION OF CLASHES IN LEBANON.
PRESS BANNERED: "ARAB SUMMIT DURING SECOND HALF OF NEXT
MONTH. FIAD EXPRESSES HOPE FOR AGREEMENT. FIGHTING
ESCALATES IN BEIRUT AND RANDOM SHELLING HITS RESIDENTIAL
DISTRICTS." MEDIA NOTED THAT ARAB FONMINS, AFTER HEARING
REPORTS ON LEBANESE SITUATION FROM MEDIATING TEAM, DECIDED
TO HOLD ARAB SUMMIT CONFERENCE IN LATTER PART OF OCTOBER.
MORNING DAMASCUS RADIO OBSERVED THAT PLO DID NOT OBJECT
TO PROPOSAL TO STRENGTHEN ASF.

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PAGE 02 DAMASC 05941 071116Z

2. PRESS REPORTED ESCALATION OF CLASHES IN VARIOUS

POINTS IN AND AROUND BEIRUT, RANDOM SHELLING OF RESIDENTIAL DISTRICTS OF EAST AND WEST BEIRUT, ARTILLERY EXCHANGES IN NORTH METN REGION AND ARTILLERY FIRE ALONG TRIPOLI-ZGHORTA FRONT.

3. PRESS REPOTED THAT REPRESENTATIVES OF PLO AND PHALANGE MET PREVIOUS DAY AT RESIDENCE OF PRESIDENT-ELECT SARKIS TO DISCUSS QUESTION OF OPENING ROAD LEADING TO BAABDA.

4. AL-THAWRAH COLUMNIST OPINED THAT, "FIRST TASK OF ARAB FONMINS IS TO STOP THE FIGHTING IN LEBANON REGARDLESS OF CIRCUMSTANCES AND METHOD THEY DEEM MOST EFFECTIVE. STOPPING THE FIGHTING IS BEGINNING OF END OF IMPERIALIST-ZIONIST PLOT AGAINST ARAB NATION."
PELLETREAU

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, CIVIL DISORDERS, COMBAT OPERATIONS, FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976DAMASC05941
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760337-0899
From: DAMASCUS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760987/aaaacwhg.tel
Line Count: 77
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: cahillha
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 FEB 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19 FEB 2004 by MaustMC>; APPROVED <18 JAN 2005 by cahillha>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SEPT. 5 SYRIAN MEDIA REPORT ARAB FONMINS MEETING AND ESCALATION OF FIGHTING IN LEBANON
TAGS: PFOR, SY, LE
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006